

**Remarks**

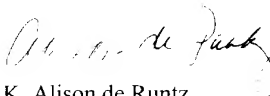
Claims 1-7 have been cancelled as directed to a non-elected invention, identified as Invention I in an office action dated December 12, 2001.

The Examiner's indication that remaining Claims 8-26 are considered allowable is acknowledged and much appreciated.

**Conclusion**

Claims 8-26 define novel and non-obvious subject matter of the present invention. Therefore, an early notification that the application is in condition for allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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